

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: JUNE 27, 2022

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY 
Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Michael Swetokos, #60280, will receive the following as a result of AI-22-008:

1. Eighty (80) hour Suspension to be served on:

June 29, 2022 (12 hours), June 30, 2022 (12 hours), July 04, 2022 (12 hours), July 05, 2022 (12 hours), July 08, 2022 (12 hours), July 09, 2022 (12 hours), and July 10, 2022 (8 hours).

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy George Steffen
Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Halle
Colonel Paul Carey
Major Adrian Arnold
Major Dennis Garvey
Major Dennis Komar
Major Jennifer Love
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Nancy Duggan
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply
Deputy Michael Swetokos

DC/blb

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: JUNE 24, 2022

TO: DEPUTY MICHAEL SWETOKOS, #60280

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-22-008

An investigation has been conducted by the Administrative Investigation Division, Professional Standards Bureau, of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. As a result of this investigation, the Administrative Review Board has determined you committed the following violation.

Between, but not limited to, January 18, 2022, through May 27, 2022, while on and off duty in Pinellas County, Florida, you violated the Pinellas County Sheriff's Civil Service Act Laws of Florida, 89-404 as amended by Laws of Florida 08-285, Section 6, Subsection 4, by violating the provisions of law or the rules, regulations, and operating procedures of the Office of the Sheriff.

1. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.2, Loyalty.
2. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.3, Rule and Regulation 3.1, Standard of Conduct.
3. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.3, Rule and Regulation 3.3, Knowledge of, and Obedience to, Laws and Rules and Regulations.

Synopsis: On January 18, 2022, while on duty, you were dispatched to a keep the peace call. The complainant was a female who had been arrested three days prior for domestic-related misdemeanor battery. The female was outfitted with a GPS monitoring device as a condition of her release. While on scene, although you did not recognize the female, she acknowledged she had met you at the dog park at your apartment complex the day before. During this call, you did not check anyone on scene for warrants and warrants, add any information into the call notes, and cleared the call on a Miscellaneous Information Report (MIR).

After this call for service, you researched the female utilizing the agency's report management system (ACISS). You learned she was the suspect in the domestic battery case related to the keep the peace call and had been arrested on January 18, 2022. One to two days later, the female contacted you on social media, and within two weeks, you engaged in an intimate relationship with her. The relationship continued for the duration of her criminal court case and while she was outfitted with a GPS monitoring device. You failed to notify supervision in writing of this relationship per policy.

On January 18, 2022, you utilized the Driver And Vehicle Information Database (DAVID) to research the female, to include viewing her vehicles, driver history, and display photos. You admitted you had no valid law enforcement related reason to viewing the female's photos and did so out of "curiosity." You testified to also viewing the female's information in DAVID on March 2, 2022 to verify her driver's license status before letting her drive your personal vehicle. These queries had no legitimate business purpose, which resulted in an unauthorized use of the DAVID system.

On March 17, 2022, while off duty, you went to Blur Nightclub with the female, now your girlfriend, to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Prior to going out, you consumed approximately two shots of vodka. While at Blur Nightclub, you continued drinking alcohol with your girlfriend and, at some point, became "enraged" after she kissed another female at the bar. You started a verbal argument with your girlfriend in front of other patrons. You admitted to saying "some mean things" and being intoxicated prior to leaving Blur Nightclub.

After leaving Blur Nightclub, you continued arguing "real loudly" with your girlfriend in a parking lot outside. At some point, your girlfriend ran away from you and, at 0348 hours, ran to Reboot Arcade Bar, crying hysterically, alleging you pushed her. Minutes later, you walked into the bar, at which time the bartender called 911. When deputies arrived on scene, you and your girlfriend were west of Reboot Arcade Bar, in the residential area of Scotland Street. You were yelling and had to be told by deputies to lower your voice. At least one resident had exited his home after hearing the arguing. Your girlfriend told the corporal you grabbed her by her hair and pulled her close to you while yelling. She stated you also pushed her to the ground, causing minor injuries, and squeezed her hand. A criminal investigation was initiated, and after probable cause was established, you were arrested for battery-dating violence.

On March 18, 2022, you were placed on notice of an internal investigation of the incident by the Administrative Investigation Division (AID) at the Pinellas County Jail and provided a Subject Notification memorandum. In addition, you were given a direct order not to discuss the investigation with anyone other than your chosen representative. After being placed on notice, you called one of the deputies who had been on scene prior to your arrest. You asked the deputy questions regarding the details surrounding your arrest. The following day, you sent the same deputy a text message acknowledging that you were not supposed to be talking about the incident and to "just disregard what I've said." Less than 24 hours later, you sent the same deputy another text message asking if he had heard you pushed your girlfriend into a bush. You also sent text messages to another agency member about the incident after being released from the Pinellas County Jail.

On April 5, 2022, you were in the back seat of an Uber that had been pulled over by the arresting corporal in your battery case. You and your girlfriend both appeared intoxicated at the time. After the traffic stop, you sent a text message to another deputy stating, "Of course, our Uber gets pulled over by Sibley, lmao," which demonstrates a lack of awareness of the seriousness of the criminal and internal investigations being conducted into your conduct.

Despite being arrested, the relationship with your girlfriend ensued, and you allowed her to move into your residence temporarily for a period of three to four weeks. Even after you terminated the romantic relationship with her, you continued to have contact with her, which impacted your professional life. Leading up to your administrative interview, the female contacted AID and alleged you were “harassing” her at her place of employment and telling her manager “fabricated stories” about her. She also claimed you told her not to cooperate with the administrative investigation being conducted, and that is why she did not show up to her scheduled interview with investigators.

During your Administrative Interview, you agreed your actions the night of your arrest brought discredit to the agency, stating, “I definitely did not act in a manner I should have.”

During the Administrative Review Board, you admitted to engaging in an intimate relationship with this female while she was a suspect in an ongoing criminal court case. In regards to the continued relationship with the female, you admitted, “I knew it wasn’t a good idea.” You acknowledged seeing all the “red flags,” stating, “I made a bad decision.”

You have demonstrated a pattern of poor decision-making and have failed to keep your private life unsullied. You acknowledged you failed to hold yourself to a higher standard on the evening of your arrest and throughout your relationship with the female.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five and two (2) Level Three Rule and Regulation violations totaling sixty-five (75) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in seventy-five (75) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is eighty (80) hours suspension to termination.

Disciplinary action shall be consistent with progressive discipline for cause in accordance with the provisions of the Pinellas County Civil Service Act.



MAJOR DENNIS KOMAR
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 6/27/2022 ~~18~~

Time 1531


SIGNATURE

BG:SLT